(c) The, State-wise, details where workers have been inducted under the Direct Payment System in the Food Corporation of India is given below:

| State | Total No. of DPS Workers (Prov.) |
|---|---|
| Delhi | 299 |
| J and K | 714 |
| Punjab | 16234 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2579 |
| Uttaranchal | 422 |
| Bihar | 167 |
| Jharkhand | 184 |
| Orissa | 652 |
| West Bengal | 2166 |
| Assam | 1025 |
| North East Frontier Region | 59 |
| Gujarat | 126 |
| Maharashtra | 631 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 822 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1021 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 3234 |
| Kerala | 2650 |
| Karnataka | 789 |
| Tamil Nadu | 1961 |

**Supply of rice for PDS in AP**

953. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether fair price shops failed to get adequate rice with the result public distribution got affected during December, 2002 and January, 2003 in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount of rice released by the Centre for distribution through PDS;

(c) the reasons for not supplying adequate rice to the PDS in the State;

(d) whether Government have considered to increase the quota fixed for the State during January, 2003; and

(e) if so, to what extent and the number of the existing card holders in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) The total quantity of 3,18,287 tonnes of rice was allotted to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh under TPDS each for the month of December, 2002 and January, 2003. There is no report to the effect that PDS had been adversely affected.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The number of existing card holders in the State is 159.02 lakhs.

**Setting up of consumer fora**

954. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is obligation, mandatory or optional to set up consumer fora in each district of the country as per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details of the consumer fora set up, so far, district-wise and State-wise;

(c) the States which have not followed the provisions of the Act; and

(d) the action taken by his Ministry against the States which have not set up consumer fora so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) In accordance with the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, setting up of the District Forum in each district is the responsibility of the State Governments and UT Administrations. District Forums have been set up in all districts except in a few newly created districts. Actions have been initiated to set up by the concerned States/UTs to set up District Forums in the newly created districts. As per the information furnished by the National Commission, the State-wise number of district forums set up so far is given in the Statement (*See* below)